

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-01 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAM-01

ACDA-05 /072 R

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DOD/ODDR&E - MR. BASIL

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R 242332Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MASS, MPOL, PFOR, SW

SUBJECT:PROPOSED VISIT BY RIKSDAG COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

THUNBORG

REFS: (A) STOCKHOLM 4883; (B) STOCKHOLM 5753; (C) STATE

14516

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1. REF B REPORTS INTEREST EXPRESSED BY RIKSDAG DEFENSE
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THUNBORG TO AMB STRAUSSZ-HUPE IN AN EARLY
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VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS QUOTE EXPANDING SWEDISH-

AMERICAN COLLABORATION IN DEFENSE PRODUCTION, PARTICULARLY IN AVIONICS, AND PROBLEMS OF FOREIGN SALES. UNQUOTE THUNBORG ALSO STATED THAT R&D BUDGET WOULD BE CUT TO ELIMINATE DUPLICATION OF US EFFORTS, AND THAT HIS COMMITTEE IS ATTEMPTING TO IDENTIFY BEST FIELDS FOR CONCENTRATING FUTURE R&D EFFORT; E.G., WEAPONS, RADAR, AVIONICS, ETC.

2. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO DISCOURAGE COMMENDABLE EFFORT BY SWEDES TO RATIONALIZE R&D. ACCORDINGLY, YOU MAY INFORM THUNBORG THAT WE WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO A SWEDISH EXPERT-LEVEL VISIT TO WASHINGTON AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME TO DISCUSS WITH OSD/DDR&E MOST FRUITFUL AREAS FOR FUTURE SWEDISH MILITARY R&D.

3. AT SAME TIME, YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO THUNBORG AND/OR OTHER GOS REPS THAT WE WOULD NOT EXPECT EXPERT DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON TO GET INTO QUESTION OF SWEDISH SUBCONTRACTS

FOR EUROPEAN PRODUCTION OF A U.S. REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR THE F-104. IN THIS MATTER WE BELIEVE SWEDES MUST PURSUE THEIR INQUIRIES WITH THE FOUR-NATION EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FIRST. FROM THE U.S. STANDPOINT, THERE IS NOTHING TO PREVENT THE CONSORTIUM FROM SHARING ITS GUARANTEED SHARE OF SUBCONTRACTING WITH THE SWEDES, IF MEMBERS CHOOSE TO, PROVIDED THAT ANY SWEDISH SUBCONTRACTING IS CONSISTENT WITH U.S. DISCLOSURE POLICY. HOWEVER, EUROPEAN SUBCONTRACTING IS A QUESTION FOR CONSORTIUM MEMBERS TO DECIDE. WHILE SWEDISH INQUIRIES WITH THE NORWEGIANS HAVE APPARENTLY LED TO NAUGHT SO FAR, WE WOULD EXPECT CONSORTIUM MEMBERS TO BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH SWEDES AFTER THEIR OWN DECISION ON AN F-104 REPLACEMENT, A DECISION WE HOPE THEY WILL MAKE NOT LATER THAN APRIL 1975.

4. APART FROM QUESTION OF SWEDISH COPRODUCTION OF F-104 REPLACEMENT FOR CONSORTIUM PURCHASERS, EMBASSY MIGHT DETERMINE FROM THUNBORG WHETHER THERE IS ANY SWEDISH INTEREST IN EXPLORING AN EVENTUAL PURCHASE BY SWEDEN OF NEW USAF AIR COMBAT FIGHTER WHEN VIGGEN PRODUCTION IS PHASED OUT, AS HINTED IN REF. B. USG WOULD NATURALLY WISH TO TAKE ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION TO FACILITATE SUCH A SALE, AND SWEDISH CONFIDENTIAL

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EXPERTS COULD IF THEY WISH PURSUE THIS QUESTION WITH USG REPS DURING PROPOSED VISIT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: MASS, MPOL, PFOR, SW, (THUNBORG)
To: STOCKHOLM
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